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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: :  
AKIHIRO WADA ET AL : ATTN: APPLICATION DIVISION  
SERIAL NO: NEW APPLICATION :  
FILED: HERewith :  
FOR: PROCESS FOR PRODUCING A  
FLUOROALKANOL

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend this application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claim 7 without prejudice and insert therefor the following new claims:

9. (New) A method of producing an information recording medium which is capable of writing in and reading out information by a laser, which comprises the steps of:

a) coating a solution of a dye in a solvent on a substrate, said solvent comprising a fluoroalkanol of the formula (1):



wherein:

R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> each independently is hydrogen or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub> alkyl;

R<sup>3</sup> is fluorine or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> perfluoroalkyl; and

n is an integer of from 1 to 4; and

b) drying the solution on said substrate, thereby forming a recording layer containing the dye.

10. (New) The method of Claim 9, wherein in said formula (1), n is 1.

11. (New) The method of Claim 9, wherein said dye comprises a cyanine dye, phthalocyanine dye, pyrylium dye, thiopyrylium dye, squarilium dye, azulenium dye, indophenol dye, indoaniline dye, triphenylmethane dye, quinone dye, aluminum-based dye, diimonium-based dye or metal complex salt-based dye.

12. (New) The method of Claim 9, wherein said substrate comprises glass, plastic or ceramic.

13. (New) The method of Claim 9, which further comprises forming an undercoat layer on said substrate prior to forming said recording layer thereon.

#### REMARKS

Claim 7 has been canceled. New Claims 9-13 have been added. Hence, Claims 1-6 and 8-13 are now active in this case.

Applicants have amended the claims to clarify the present invention. All of the above amendments are fully supported by the claims and disclosure as originally filed. No new matter has been added.

Accordingly, it is believed this application is now in condition for examination on the merits. Favorable consideration is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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IN THE CLAIMS

--Claim 7 (Canceled).

Claims 9-13 (New).--